United Nations A/73/592

General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 123

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katharina **Konzett-Stoffl** (Austria)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly" and to allocate it to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 55th meeting, on 20 November 2018.[1]

3. At its 55th meeting, the Committee had before it a tentative programme of work of the Third Committee for the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly (A/C.3/73/L.67).

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally revised item 1 of the draft proposal.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee approved its tentative programme of work for the seventy-fourth session, as contained in document A/C.3/73/L.67, as orally revised, and decided to transmit it to the General Assembly for approval (see para. 6).

Recommendation of the Third Committee

6. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

[1] See A/C.3/73/SR.55.

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Programme of work of the Third Committee for the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly

Item 1. Social development:

(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family.

Item 2. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

Item 3. International drug control.

Item 4. Advancement of women.

Item 5. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

Item 6. Rights of indigenous peoples:

(a) Rights of indigenous peoples;

(b) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Item 7. Promotion and protection of human rights:

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Item 8. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:

(a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Item 9. Right of peoples to self-determination.

Item 10. Report of the Human Rights Council.

Item 11. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

Item 12. Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes.

Item 13. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

United Nations A/73/593

General Assembly

Distr.: General
26 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 137

Programme planning

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katharina **Konzett-Stoffl** (Austria)

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Programme planning" and to allocate it to all the Main Committees and the plenary to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 2 October 2018, the Third Committee was advised that no action was expected under this item.

18-20363 (E) 291118

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United Nations A/73/594–S/2018/1040

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 November 2018

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 45
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 20 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I enclose herewith two documents detailing the violations of the national airspace of Cyprus and the infringements of international air traffic regulations in the Cyprus flight information region (see annex I) and the illegal use of closed ports and airports in Cyprus by Turkey (see annex II) during the month of September 2018.

This persistent policy of violating international law and breaching international rules and regulations is a constant threat to international peace and security, has a negative impact on regional stability, jeopardizes the safety of international civil aviation and creates difficulties for air traffic over Cyprus, and prevents the creation of an enabling environment in which to conduct the Cyprus peace process.

Turkey continues to systematically harass civilian and military aircraft within the Nicosia flight information region via radio calls. During the month of September 2018, the regime installed by the occupying power in the area of Cyprus that it occupies illegally issued one notice to airmen relating to exercises conducted by the Turkish Air Force. Additionally, Turkish commercial aircraft systematically use the airport of Tympou, which continues to operate illegally following the closure by the Cyprus Government of all ports of entry in the areas where it does not exercise effective control.

The said actions of Turkey, which has continued to occupy the northern part of the Republic of Cyprus since 1974, are clearly aimed at undermining Cyprus' sovereignty, consolidating the ongoing de facto division and upgrading the secessionist entity's status by claiming a purported airspace over the occupied territory of the Republic. In this respect, I would like to underline that there is only one Cypriot State, which is the Republic of Cyprus, as stipulated in various Security Council resolutions (in particular resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984)), in which the Council declared legally invalid the purported secession of part of Cyprus.

On behalf of my Government, I strongly protest the continuing violations of the national airspace and the territorial waters of Cyprus by Turkey, as well as the

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infringements by the latter of international air traffic regulations, and appeal for their immediate cessation.

The Republic of Cyprus reiterates, in this respect, its call for all States to respect Security Council resolutions and adhere to the principles of sovereignty and non-interference enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

Finally, I would like to urge Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot community to contribute to a meaningful resumption of the peace process, instead of focusing on undermining the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and promoting Cyprus' partition through the creation of facts on the ground and the consolidation of the status quo, including by seeking to politically upgrade the secessionist entity.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annexes as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Polly **Ioannou**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex I to the letter dated 20 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Airborne violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
1 September	1110–1241	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia flight information region (FIR) without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia area control centre (ACC)
2 September	0810–0850	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
3 September	0740–0846	Four Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	0745–0810	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
4 September	0952–1239	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1252–1317	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1828–1914	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
5 September	1237–1537	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
6 September	1001–1230	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1142–1252	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1320–1345	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1405–1604	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1710–1803	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
7 September	1105–1203	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1128–1148	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1714–1744	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
8 September	1049–1253	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1300–1542	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
10 September	0940–1243	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1520–1643	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1533–1629	Two F-16 and two F-4 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1554–1854	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1601–1617	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
11 September	1022–1200	Two Cougar Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
12 September	1030–1239	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1105–1324	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1546–1858	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1920–2040	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
13 September	0100–0134	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1215–1418	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1640–1703	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
14 September	1026–1234	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1532–1700	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	Time	Nature of violation
	1557–1714	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1645–1809	One AB-412 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1806–2142	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1923–2017	One AB-412 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
5 September	1012–1223	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
6 September	0812–1050	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
17 September	1012–1242	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1433–1556	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1637–1712	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
18 September	1032–1145	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1125–1228	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1410–1545	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1740–1834	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1851–1936	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
19 September	1000–1214	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
20 September	1004–1243	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1431–1636	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1415–1420	Two F-4 and two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1429–1434	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1440–1458	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1533–1546	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1715–1733	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1558–1820	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1923–1935	One A-400 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	2030–2148	One Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
21 September	1100–1305	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1345–1631	One Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
22 September	1428–1538	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
24 September	0839–1230	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1154–1332	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1500–1703	One King Air Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1601–1840	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1844–2033	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
25 September	1021–1101	One B-350 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
26 September	1018–1119	One AB-412 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1041–1100	One B-200 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1053–1233	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1317–1450	One AB-412 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1650–1734	One AB-412 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
	1651–1710	One B-200 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
27 September	1020–1120	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC
28 September	1014–1237	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC

Annex II to the letter dated 20 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Naval violations

Dates	*Nature of violation*
1–2 September	One P-338 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
6–8 September	One P-338 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
8–15 September	One P-337 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
15–16 September	One P-338 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
15–17 September	One F-490 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
23–26 September	One P-338 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces
24–25 September	One A-1600 Turkish vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta
24–28 September	One A-1600 Turkish vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta
28 September	One P-338 Turkish missile vessel violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Famagusta while participating in a naval operation of the occupation forces

United Nations A/73/595

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 128 (w)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Letter dated 19 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement by the Heads of State of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948 (see annex).*

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 128 (w).

(*Signed*) Mahmadamin **Mahmadaminov**

* The annex is being circulated in English and Russian (language of submission) only.

18-20029 (E) 271118 271118

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Annex to the letter dated 19 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Heads of State of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948

The Heads of State of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Noting that 2018 marks the seventieth anniversary since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (hereafter, "the Declaration"),

Acknowledging the significance of the Declaration as an instrument which laid down universal standards for promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Emphasizing the decisive influence that the Declaration has had on the formation of the international regime for promoting and protecting human rights and its significance in the development of international law as a whole,

Recognizing the Declaration as the basis and reference point for intergovernmental cooperation in the field of human rights,

Affirm their commitment to the principle of the rule of law in international affairs, including in the field of human rights,

Consider that global shifts in international politics and economics cannot serve as a justification for changing approaches to the promotion and protection of the human rights and freedoms established in the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and other fundamental international human rights instruments to which their States are parties,

Stress the need to further promote awareness that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community should treat them in a fair and equal manner, giving all categories of human rights equal consideration and respect,

Reaffirm their commitment to uphold the principle of non-discrimination, as proclaimed in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind,

Remain convinced that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the generally recognized principles and norms of international law,

Support increasing efforts by States to raise awareness and reflect on achievements, best practices and challenges with regard to the realization of human rights for all, without distinction of any kind on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property or other status,

Underscore the role that efforts by States to promote dialogue across civilizations and cultures play in protecting and promoting human rights and strengthening international cooperation,

Note the importance of enhancing national efforts to realize human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Declaration, and of galvanizing mutually beneficial and respectful international cooperation on human rights that takes into consideration national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds of States,

Underscore the need to foster constructive, equal and respectful dialogue and to reject the use of double standards in the field of human rights,

Call upon States to build cooperation in the field of human rights on the basis of the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, to avoid imposing their views and values, and thus to contribute to sustained joint efforts to promote respect for human rights around the world.

Dushanbe, 28 September 2018

United Nations A/73/596

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda items 127 and 128 (j)

Multilingualism

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Letter dated 15 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit to you herewith the Yerevan Declaration adopted at the seventeenth Summit of the Heads of State and Government of La Francophonie held under the theme "Living Together" in Yerevan on 11 and 12 October 2018 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 127 and 128 (j).

(*Signed*) Mher **Margaryan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-20146 (E) 301118 041218

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Annex to the letter dated 15 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: French]

XVII Summit of the Heads of State and Government of countries having French as a common language

Yerevan, 11–12 October 2018

Yerevan Declaration

Preamble

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of countries having French as a common language, meeting on 11 and 12 October 2018, on the occasion of the XVII Summit of la Francophonie, in Yerevan, which coincides with the commemoration of the 2,800th anniversary of the foundation of that city, the capital of the Republic of Armenia;

2. Welcoming the holding of this Summit in Armenia, which demonstrates the depth of the commitment of that country, with its thousands of years of history and lying at the crossroads of civilizations, to the French language and culture and to the enhancement of their standing internationally;

3. Noting the challenges faced by the French-speaking world and resolved to address the legitimate aspirations of its people, especially young people and women, for sustainable development, inclusive growth and environmental conservation;

4. Convinced of the urgent need to enhance cohesion in our societies and promote the values of peace, solidarity, democracy and human rights, in accordance with the Charter of la Francophonie and the Bamako and Saint Boniface declarations, which are guiding instruments of the French-speaking world;

5. Reaffirming our commitment to the French language and respect for the cultural and linguistic diversity in our States and Governments that is the bedrock of the French-speaking world;

6. Acknowledging the importance of ensuring that the French language thrives in the digital realm;

Decide to devote this XVII Summit to the theme:

Living together in solidarity, with shared humanistic values and respect for diversity: a source of peace and prosperity for the French-speaking community

I. Living together through shared humanistic values

Considering that living together requires a shared set of values,

7. We reiterate the firm commitment to peace, security and stability of the French-speaking world and our commitment to promote a just and equitable international order based on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

8. Bearing in mind the Saint Boniface Declaration, the 12th anniversary of which was celebrated on 11 May 2018 in Ottawa, we reaffirm that, in a world confronted by common dangers and transnational threats, multilateralism remains the best framework for international cooperation and that peacebuilding, strengthened

collective security and global sustainable development are common tasks that must be carried out while fully respecting the sovereignty of States;

9. We reaffirm that respect for and the promotion of human rights is an overriding priority and stand by our commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, now in its 70th year;

10. Believing firmly in the inalienable character of the dignity and equal value of all human beings, women and men, we are resolved to continue working to guarantee the universality of human rights and their equitable application by all of our States and Governments and support the strengthening of the capacity and role of national, regional and international mechanisms in the field of human rights;

11. We reaffirm our commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights (civil, political, economic, social and cultural), which are fundamental, inalienable, universal, indivisible and interdependent, through dialogue, cooperation, capacity-building, technical assistance and the recognition of best practices, in order to build collective and sustainable peace and prosperity in the French-speaking world and globally and, in that regard, recall the adoption by the United Nations of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which aims to create economic and social conditions conducive to development for all peoples and individuals;

12. We reaffirm our commitment to democracy and the rule of law, which underpin our common values, and to democratic governance, respect for our Constitutions and the holding of free, regular, fair, transparent and inclusive elections;

13. We call for the achievement of genuine equality between women and men in the belief that such equality fosters peace, prosperity and poverty eradication; underline the importance of the contribution by the French-speaking world to the promotion of women's rights and the essential role of women in the political, economic, cultural and social life of all our States and Governments; support the initiatives taken in the framework of the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) that address equality between women and men in a structured and systematic fashion, regardless of the nature of particular actions and policies or the actors involved in their implementation; and welcome the holding, on 1 and 2 November 2017 in Bucharest, of the Conference of Women of la Francophonie to promote the economic empowerment of women, the launch of a network of French-speaking women entrepreneurs and the adoption, on 13 March 2018, of the action plan on women's economic empowerment in the French-speaking world, during the annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women of the Economic and Social Council;

14. We adopt and undertake to implement the strategy for the promotion of equality between women and men and the rights and empowerment of women and girls in the French-speaking world, which is intended to ensure equality between the sexes in the public and private spheres; guarantee access for girls and women to high-quality and inclusive education, training, decent work and health; promote their empowerment, prevent and combat all forms of violence, abuse and discrimination committed against them; and ensure their full, effective and equal participation in political, economic, cultural and public life, including the prevention and resolution of conflicts;

15. We are determined to end all forms of violence against women and children, including domestic and conjugal violence, child marriage, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation, and sexual violence and exploitation, including when they are committed in situations of humanitarian crisis or armed conflict;

16. We reaffirm our commitment to child health and the protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation and resolve to take, together with the relevant stakeholders, the measures necessary to ensure the physical and psychological rehabilitation of child victims and their social reintegration;

17. We undertake to guarantee the full exercise of fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of expression, the effective protection and security of journalists, freedom of the press and the development of independent mechanisms for the ethical regulation of the mass media, bearing in mind the threat posed by disinformation and the manipulation brought about by the production, withholding or distortion of information;

18. We condemn all violations of international humanitarian law and attempts to manipulate or politicize humanitarian issues and call for civilians to be protected and their human rights and fundamental freedoms to be guaranteed in areas of conflict and for rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access to be ensured;

19. In accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, we reaffirm our commitment to the peaceful settlement of crises and conflicts that affect the French-speaking world, including through internationally recognized negotiating formats; seek always to foster dialogue, the use of good offices and mediation to reach negotiated solutions to crises and conflicts; and support a greater role for women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts;

20. We recall the primacy of international law in all circumstances, including in modern-day situations of violence, and that measures taken to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism must be consistent with obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

21. We maintain our efforts to thwart genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity and combat impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and call for stronger preventive measures in order to protect populations; underline the importance, in that regard, of cooperating with the international criminal justice system and facilitating the development of judicial cooperation procedures between States, which is essential for prosecuting the perpetrators of the most serious crimes; reaffirm the importance of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, on the eve of the 70th anniversary of its adoption; and undertake to mark the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime, which was established in 2015 by the United Nations, each year on 9 December;

22. We underscore, in the belief that the denial or justification of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity can lead to impunity, hamper the prevention of such crimes and nullify reconciliation among peoples, the importance of educational programmes aimed at preventing them and strongly encourage enhanced public awareness of the need to combat such crimes, unstinting action to counter genocide denial and the galvanization of international efforts to prevent their recurrence;

23. We emphasize the critical role of education as a means of learning how to live in the spirit of democracy and respect for human rights and for promoting diversity, equality between women and men, tolerance and inclusion and call upon OIF, working closely with the relevant institutions in the French-speaking world, to build into its cooperation activities awareness-raising programmes on the culture of peace, human rights, citizenship and living in democracy;

24. We reaffirm our full support for the efforts of OIF, together with its regional and international partners and in conjunction with the Parliamentary Assembly of la Francophonie and institutional networks in the French-speaking world, to prevent, manage and resolve crises and conflicts, assist in transition and peacebuilding processes, foster adhesion to the principles of international law and strengthen democracy and respect for human rights and call upon the Secretary General to continue and broaden her activities and those of OIF in that regard;

25. We attach great importance to improving cooperation between the United Nations and OIF in the area of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and peace maintenance; welcome international efforts to promote peace, increase the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations and build the relevant capacities; welcome also the participation of French-speaking personnel in peacekeeping operations deployed by the United Nations and regional organizations in areas of conflict in the French-speaking world; call for continued efforts to enhance the presence and build the capacity of French-speaking personnel, increase the representation of personnel with a good command of French and ensure the full participation of women in peacekeeping operations; welcome further the establishment of the Boutros-Ghali Peacekeeping Observatory and undertake to harness the potential of that new instrument;

26. We support international efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that would enable two States, Palestine and Israel, to live side by side in peace, security and mutual recognition, within secure and internationally recognized borders. Such a peace must be based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003) and all other relevant resolutions subsequently adopted by the Council, the terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference, agreements previously reached by the parties, the Quartet road map and the Arab Peace Initiative as adopted at the Arab summit in Beirut;

27. We call upon the parties, in line with the preceding paragraph, to resume direct negotiations to achieve the solution of two States, Israel and a viable, geographically contiguous Palestinian State on the basis of the borders of 4 June 1967; urge the two parties to refrain from unilateral actions that could lead to an escalation and to avoid entrenched positions with regard to the outcome of negotiations on issues relating to a final and comprehensive peace agreement, such as the status of Jerusalem as the capital of both States or a fair and lasting approach to the refugee question, without prejudice to the resolution of all final status issues, so as to avoid the adoption of stances likely to exacerbate the climate of mistrust and undermine the chances of reaching a peace agreement; and strongly condemn the ongoing settlement activities, which are illegal under international law, and recurring incitement to violence;[1]

28. We draw attention to the importance of addressing the dire humanitarian and security situation in the Gaza Strip; call for swift action to improve the situation and underscore the need for all parties to comply with international law; welcome the reforms undertaken by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); and call upon the international community to continue providing the Agency with equitable support, so that it may address its budget shortfall, diversify its funding sources, meet its obligations and carry out its mission in the service of Palestinian refugees in its five regional operations centres;

29. We renew our strong condemnation of terrorist acts, whatsoever the reasons and by whomsoever committed, and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and express solidarity with the member States and Governments of OIF that have been affected by such acts; welcome the establishment of the Office of Counter-Terrorism under General Assembly resolution 71/291 and the adoption of Security Council resolutions regarding international counter-terrorism initiatives; make a commitment to take the appropriate steps in accordance with international law, including Security Council resolution 2370 (2017), to combat illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, in particular to terrorists; and, where appropriate and in accordance with national legal frameworks, resolve to strengthen, in particular, our systems of data collection and analysis and to put in place, where they do not exist, laws, regulations and administrative procedures for the effective control over the production, export,

[1] Canada has lodged a reservation to paragraphs 26 and 27.

import, brokering, transit or retransfer of small arms and light weapons in areas under our jurisdiction and to ensure the physical security and proper management of stockpiles;

30. We reaffirm the commitment of the French-speaking world to combat the scourge of terrorism and our determination to continue efforts to prevent radicalization and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and undertake to implement all the relevant international instruments to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to promote inclusion, respect for diversity, tolerance and harmonious coexistence;

31. We strongly condemn incitement to commit terrorist acts and underscore the appeal made to States to prohibit and prevent such conduct in accordance with Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) and undertake to adhere to the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives in accordance with Security Council resolution 2354 (2017);

32. We welcome, in that regard, the work of OIF, including the "Libres ensemble" (Free Together) initiative and the establishment of a network for the prevention of radicalization and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in the French-speaking world (FrancoPrev) and encourage OIF and other institutional stakeholders in the French-speaking world to continue their efforts in that area and, together with international partners such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to adopt meaningful initiatives, especially for young people, to foster intercultural dialogue and respect for cultural diversity;

33. We welcome the second international conference on intercultural and interfaith dialogue, held in Fez, Morocco, from 10 to 12 September 2018, and efforts by OIF, with its international partners, to lift the profile of awareness-raising efforts by the French-speaking world on the importance of such dialogue in the framework of an inclusive approach;

34. Outraged by the ill-treatment, exploitation, trafficking and tragic disappearances suffered by many migrants, we strongly condemn those intolerable violations of human dignity and the integrity of persons and reaffirm our commitment to intensify our efforts to implement the relevant international legal instruments, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and to contribute to the protection of the rights of migrants, regardless of their migration status;

35. Acknowledging that migration represents both a development challenge and an opportunity for all the countries involved, we stress the need to coordinate the management of migration flows and thereby work together in order to foster development in the migrants' countries of origin and protect their human rights, dignity and safety, taking into account the specific situation of women and children; encourage close cooperation among the countries of origin, transit and destination based on a universal approach encompassing the legal obligations of States, the obligations of migrants and mutual commitments; and further emphasize the need to foster conditions conducive to greater integration, at the same time boosting prevention and combating the criminal networks behind irregular immigration and trafficking in human beings, who must be provided with protection and assistance;

36. We welcome the significant contribution made by OIF, the Parliamentary Assembly and associated bodies in addressing the root causes and consequences of irregular migration and forced displacement in a spirit of shared responsibility and solidarity, in line with the resolution adopted by the ministers and heads of delegation at the thirty-first session of the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, held in

Yerevan in 2015, and encourage institutions in the French-speaking world to expand their efforts in that area in the context of the momentum generated by the negotiations on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the global compact on refugees;

II. Living together in solidarity in the French-speaking world

Considering that living together presupposes the principles of solidarity and sharing, which form an integral part of our common heritage,

37. We reaffirm our commitment to make the French-speaking world a space for cooperation, solidarity, dialogue and interaction and our intention to strengthen its work in the fields of the economy and environment and thereby serve our people, in particular women and underrepresented population groups, and remain committed to implementing the economic strategy for the French-speaking world that was adopted at the 2014 Summit in Dakar;

38. Renewing our commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, we resolve to promote an economy focused on individuals and their development, with access to decent and sustainable jobs, especially for young people and women, the reduction of inequality and the development of sustainable production and consumption patterns among our priorities, and in that regard underscore the importance of encouraging sustainable investment that creates jobs and fosters local industrial development in the economies of the French-speaking world, while limiting the impact on natural resources;

39. We believe that cooperation between the member States and Governments could be enhanced by in-depth dialogue through platforms across the French-speaking world, such as those established by the Sustainable Development Institute of la Francophonie, with a view to exchanging experiences and best practices regarding achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at the local, regional and national levels; call upon OIF to continue its activities in that area; and, aware of the vital role local authorities have to play in attaining the Goals, undertake to support their involvement in that process;

40. We undertake to facilitate exchanges and the movement of French-speaking economic actors, students, academics and artists, in particular women and young people, which are key to fostering cooperation and solidarity in the French-speaking world;

41. Acknowledging that women and young people are priority groups under the 2030 Agenda, we draw attention to the importance of inclusive and high-quality education for their social and professional integration; support the initiatives of OIF and its partners designed to foster employment through entrepreneurship among women and young people and to encourage youth mobility, including the OIF international volunteering programme; and request the Secretary General of OIF to continue and intensify her efforts in that area;

42. We welcome the economic forum, which was held on 9 and 10 October 2018 in Yerevan, alongside the Summit, to promote networking by business people and address development challenges and prospects in line with the economic strategy for the French-speaking world, and which brought together business leaders from French-speaking countries and representatives of international economic organizations; welcome also the focus on the digital economy in the forum's work; note with satisfaction in that context the launch of the network of ministers for the digital economy; and call upon OIF to provide all the support necessary to develop that network;

43. Recalling our goal of consolidating the networks of institutions, professionals and companies in the French-speaking world, in line with our economic strategy, we invite OIF to work together with States, Governments and employers' organizations to establish a network of employers' organizations for the promotion of business development in the economies of the French-speaking world;

44. Acknowledging the essential role that qualified and skilled human resources play in sustainable development, we emphasize the importance of lifelong learning and acknowledge that vocational and technical training are key to alleviating unemployment and ensuring access to jobs for all and social integration;

45. Reaffirming our commitment to high-quality and free public education for all and underscoring the critical importance of access to inclusive education and training, we recall the need for the authorities to regulate the school system as a whole in order to ensure the quality and equity of education services;

46. Bearing in mind the challenge of educating millions of children in countries most in need, we continue to support UNESCO, the lead agency for implementing Sustainable Development Goal 4 (ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), and all initiatives for achieving that Goal, including those of the Global Partnership for Education and strongly support concerted action by OIF, particularly through its Education and Training Institute of la Francophonie, the Conference of Ministers of Education and other relevant OIF institutions, to ensure quality teaching in French and of the French language and, thereby, reinforce linguistic diversity;

47. We encourage the creation of partnerships with all relevant actors, including social housing agencies and the private sector, to make affordable housing more accessible; undertake to support the renovation of existing and substandard housing stock in the context of sustainable development; and invite Governments, including municipal and other local authorities, to strengthen inclusive initiatives to provide everyone with access to basic services;

48. Concerned about the serious threat posed to the future of the planet by the effects of climate change, especially in developing countries, and the growing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, which especially affect small island developing States and least developed countries, we reaffirm our commitment to fully implement the Paris Agreement, which was adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and entered into force on 4 November 2016, work for its universal ratification, reach its objectives, achieve the nationally determined contributions and seek ways to increase those contributions; consider it necessary, given the priority status accorded to Africa by OIF, to stress again the importance of recognizing the diverse circumstances facing African countries, including with regard to negotiation rounds of the Convention; and support the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held from 2 to 14 December 2018 in Katowice, Poland;

49. Convinced of the need to raise substantial funding to combat climate change in accordance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement, taking into particular account the needs of developing countries that are parties to the Agreement, and recognizing that the provision of increased and, to the extent possible, predictable financial resources should be aimed at achieving a balance between adaptation and mitigation, we welcome the commitments made at the One Planet Summit on climate finance, which was held in Paris on 12 December 2017; call on developed countries and all finance actors, whether public or private, to intensify their efforts to achieve the collective goal of raising $100 billion per year by 2020 and thereby help developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries, which are the most vulnerable, to enhance their efforts to mitigate and adapt to the

effects of climate change; and call upon all States and Governments to steer financial flows towards development that produces fewer greenhouse gas emissions and is more climate resilient;

50. Acknowledging the importance of addressing climate challenge at the local level, we welcome the initiatives taken by federal States and local authorities and call for further efforts to make climate finance directly accessible to them;

51. We attach great importance to environmental conservation, especially the conservation and sustainable management of land and marine ecosystems and freshwater resources, and efforts to combat desertification and marine litter, including microplastics; confirm our commitment to strengthen our cooperation, particularly with developing countries, on environmentally friendly initiatives and to promote biodiversity and the sustainable consumption and production of natural resources; draw attention to the educational and scientific support provided to States and Governments in those areas by the Sustainable Development Institute of la Francophonie; and look forward to the forthcoming fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Egypt;

52. We encourage the sustainable and equitable management of water resources and efforts to train personnel in the field and develop their professional capacity; with regard to the management of transboundary water resources, we call for cooperation based on mutual interests and confidence, in accordance with international law and Sustainable Development Goal 6 (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all); and we encourage also accession to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes;

53. We support the Abuja Declaration issued at the International Conference on Lake Chad, which was held from 26 to 28 February 2018 in Nigeria, and in particular the decision by the African Union to include the issue of Lake Chad in its agenda as an African concern, and take note of its appeal to the African Development Bank to establish a $50 billion Lake Chad fund to, among other things, finance infrastructure projects on the lake;

54. We reiterate the need to promote the blue and green economies in member States and Governments for the sustainable management of natural resources and as new drivers of growth and call upon OIF to continue advocating the blue and green economies for sustainable development, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices in those areas and to support related projects with its expertise;

55. Aware of the rapid deterioration of the environment at the global level, we welcome General Assembly resolution 72/277 entitled "Towards a global pact for the environment", which was adopted on 10 May 2018, and undertake to work towards an ambitious consensus in the framework of the initiatives envisaged in the resolution;

56. Motivated by the desire to establish partnerships with regional and subregional economic areas, we note with interest the offer by the Chair of the Summit to organize an economic forum in Armenia on synergies within the French-speaking world and processes of regional economic integration, in line with the economic strategy for the French-speaking world;

III. Living together with respect for linguistic and cultural diversity

Considering that living together in the French-speaking world is underpinned by the French language, which is the cement that binds together this family, and our commitment to linguistic diversity,

57. We shall implement the comprehensive policy on promoting use of the French language, which was adopted in Kinshasa in 2012, seek to place French on a stronger footing on the international scene by applying the OIF guidance on the use of French in the international organizations, and call upon OIF to monitor that process regularly;

58. We reaffirm our commitment to effectively apply the provisions of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and its operational guidelines on the digital environment by upholding the principle of cultural exception, strengthening development cooperation and encouraging greater civil society involvement in efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

59. We invite the national public television networks of member and observer States and Governments to deepen their cooperation in order to promote the use of the French language and cultural and linguistic diversity at the international level; welcome the proposal by Armenia, in its capacity as Chair of the Summit of la Francophonie, to establish Francovision, a song contest for the entire French-speaking world; and request the relevant authorities of the member and observer States and Governments, OIF and the TV5Monde television network to study the options and means for making that initiative a reality;

60. Convinced that deepening cultural cooperation among States and Governments can enhance mutual understanding and appreciation of our cultural and linguistic diversity, which is what enriches the French-speaking world, we affirm our commitment to promote exchanges and the circulation of cultural property and foster cultural innovation and the arts;

61. Recalling the Declaration adopted at the third International Conference on "Cultural policy, policy for culture: the role of culture in the post-2015 development agenda" held in Yerevan on 13 July 2015, we stress that cultural rights are an integral part of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that everyone has the right to preserve and develop their culture, traditions, religion and language, in compliance with international human rights obligations, and to fully participate in the cultural life of society without prejudice or hindrance;

62. We stress that cross-cultural activities conducted at the bilateral, multilateral, regional and international levels and cooperation in international forums should be based on the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

63. We acknowledge the need, in accordance with international law, to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of the French-speaking world and that of humanity as a whole and endorse the ongoing efforts of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, including UNESCO, in that regard and the progress made since the International Conference on Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Conflict Areas, which was held in Abu Dhabi in December 2016, and strongly condemn assaults on cultural heritage and the ideologically motivated destruction and looting of cultural property;

64. We welcome the success of the Francophonie Games, which were held in Abidjan, in Côte d'Ivoire, in July 2017, and were a remarkable demonstration of solidarity among the countries and peoples of the French-speaking world and highlighted sporting and cultural diversity and talents; express appreciation to the authorities of Côte d'Ivoire for their warm hospitality and the excellent organization of the Games; and wish every success to the organizers of the next Games, which will be held in the cities of Moncton and Dieppe in New Brunswick, Canada, in 2021;

65. We welcome also the holding of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie on Culture in Abidjan alongside the Games, note with satisfaction the declaration and action plan adopted at the Conference, which chart a vision for

enhancing cultural and linguistic diversity and participation in culture, and will monitor progress on implementation;

66. Recalling the digital strategy for the French-speaking world, which was adopted at the 2012 Summit in Kinshasa, we reaffirm the importance of promoting the use of the French language in the global digital space, which is key to fostering cultural and linguistic diversity, particularly under the four pillars of the digital strategy; request OIF to continue its efforts to contribute to the creation of digital content in French, with a focus on equality between women and men and inclusion; undertake to work to enhance the visibility of and access to French and multilingual content online through search engine optimization and in audiovisual and digital services; and endorse the idea that States, digital platforms and civil society are jointly responsible for fostering greater cultural diversity in the digital space;

67. Acknowledging that the online presence of the French language and culture depends in part on distribution platforms, we undertake to support and develop TV5 as a priority platform in the analogue and digital environments of our States and Governments;

68. Recalling that the Internet should provide an opportunity to strengthen the democratic exercise of rights and freedoms, we renew our appeals, made at the Kinshasa and Dakar summits, for the adoption and implementation of global standards and national laws laying down the principles of effective personal data protection;

69. Aware of the major role played by innovation and knowledge transfer, we renew our support for the endeavours of OIF, the Parliamentary Assembly, associated bodies and the standing ministerial conferences designed to foster innovation, digital development and entrepreneurship, for the web-based and mobile initiatives launched by the Francophone Digital Innovation Fund and the Francophone Innovation Network and for the campuses of the Nouvel Espace Universitaire Francophone, established by the University Agency of la Francophonie, one of the objectives of which is to foster collaboration in the areas of digital creativity and innovation in teaching and business;

70. Aware that access to digital resources is critical for universities, we support the digital development initiative for universities in the French-speaking world, which held its third meeting of ministers of higher education from French-speaking countries in Marrakesh, Morocco, in June 2018 to discuss various approaches to financing digital development in universities and we encourage the University Agency of la Francophonie and OIF to continue with that initiative;

71. We welcome the efforts of the Parliamentary Assembly, the University Agency of la Francophonie, TV5, Senghor University of Alexandria, the international association of mayors and officials of partially or fully French-speaking capitals and major cities and the standing ministerial conferences on education and youth and sport in promoting the ideal of living together and their ongoing commitment to cultural diversity;

72. Convinced that knowing one another is vital for intercultural dialogue and promotes peace, we reaffirm our commitment to the TV5 multilateral television network, which is an associated body of OIF, a showcase of the cultural diversity of the French-speaking world and an essential vehicle for learning and teaching French and promoting the language internationally. We therefore undertake to ensure that it can broadcast and engage in promotion on an equal footing with national networks; to that end, we undertake to adopt all appropriate measures to ensure the broadest possible access for our people to TV5 channels across the spectrum of distribution media and especially those that are most widely used;

73. Acknowledging the vital place that French-speaking young people have in our societies and their crucial role in disseminating the values of living together, we welcome their statement on the theme of the Summit, as a vehicle for cultural and linguistic diversity, and that of the International Conference of NGOs;

Believing firmly in the need to set forth in an official document of OIF the principles for living together that will guide our future efforts to enhance cooperation, solidarity, dialogue and tolerance, based on shared values, we adopt the Yerevan Declaration of the French-speaking world on living together;

Renewing our resolve and determination to promote the ideal of living together, we pledge to implement the decisions taken at the Yerevan Summit, confident that they will help to build a peaceful and prosperous future.

United Nations A/73/597–S/2018/1044

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 November 2018
English
Original: Russian

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 101 (k)
General and complete disarmament: implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 23 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe on "Upholding the Chemical Weapons Convention", delivered at The Hague on 20 November 2018 at the twenty-third session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 101 (k), and as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) D. **Polyanskiy**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to letter dated 23 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Joint statement on behalf of Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe

Upholding the Chemical Weapons Convention

We, the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC), committed to achieving the goal of freeing the world of chemical weapons, strongly condemn the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere and under any circumstances.

We commend the contribution made by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to freeing the world from that type of weapons of mass destruction.

We emphasize that integrity and comprehensive universality of the CWC are of critical importance for achieving the object and the purpose of the Convention and maintaining international peace and security.

We consider the inviolability of the fundamental CWC provisions, as well as the operating principles of the OPCW, its principal and executive bodies, such as the Conference of the States Parties (the CSP), the Executive Council and the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW, to be an indispensable prerequisite for ensuring further effective functioning of the OPCW as one of the most successful multilateral mechanisms in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

We believe that the decision of the Fourth Special Session of the CWC CSP of 27 June 2018 to delegate authority to the OPCW Technical Secretariat that is not provided for in the Convention, as well as the proposals by this OPCW administrative body to assume attribution functions to identify the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons go beyond the scope of the CWC.

Such decisions and proposals which in view of the technical nature of the OPCW are of principal importance must be considered solely in line with Article XV of the Convention.

The disunity among the States Parties to the CWC due to the politicization of the problem of the use of chemical weapons significantly reduces the efficiency of our Organization's work, as it prevents us from focusing on common and genuinely pressing tasks that are set out in the Convention and have been successfully performed for many years.

In light of the above, we call on the States Parties to the CWC to cooperate with each other in a constructive manner and seek to restore the spirit of consensus in the OPCW for the sake of integrity and universality of the Convention.

United Nations A/73/598–S/2018/906

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 November 2018
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda items 38, 55 and 74

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Promotion and protection of human rights

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Identical letters dated 10 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw your attention to the following information regarding the unjust Israeli judgements that have been handed down against the Syrian prisoner Sidqi al-Miqt.

On Tuesday, 9 October 2018, the so-called Supreme Court of the occupying Israeli authorities handed down an unjust decision upholding the 11-year prison sentence that the Galilee court had given to the activist prisoner Sidqi al-Miqt, a son of Majdal Shams in the occupied Syrian Golan and the most senior of Syrian and Arab prisoners held in the prisons of the occupiers. The occupying Israeli forces rearrested the activist Al-Miqt on 25 February 2015 after having imprisoned him for more than 27 years, which he spent in the depths of the occupiers' prisons without any legal or moral justification. This new unjust judgment was handed down because he had shown that the Israeli occupying authorities were providing all forms of support, including arms, money and medical services, to armed terrorist groups, in particular the Nusrah Front and other associated terrorist organizations, that are active in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Syrian Arab Republic strongly condemns and denounces the unjust judgement that was handed by the racist Israeli courts against prisoner Sidqi al-Miqt. It considers that judgement to be void and illegal because it was handed down by the occupying Power against a civilian national of Syria who is living under the rule of a foreign occupier in a part of his own country, namely, the occupied Syrian Golan. That judgement is yet another legal outrage in the series of crimes committed by the occupying Israeli authorities that must be added to the shameful register of "Israel", a register that is replete with war crimes and violations of international law, human

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rights and international humanitarian law, as well as of Security Council resolution 497 (1981), under which "Israel" is prohibited from taking punitive measure in the occupied Syrian Golan. The above-mentioned crimes have been occurring since Israel occupied the Golan on 5 June 1967.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again calls upon the Secretary-General, the Security Council, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant international bodies that are concerned with human rights and the application of international humanitarian law, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, to compel the Israeli authorities to release prisoner Sidqi al-Miqt immediately and unconditionally, because the unjust Israeli decision blatantly denies Syrians living under Israeli occupation their rights and is contrary to the principle of justice, which is guaranteed by international law everywhere and at all times. The Israeli authorities must also be compelled to release all Syrian Arab Republic nationals who are being held in the occupiers' prisons and detention centres.

Syria renews its call for the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and international humanitarian law to be applied in respect of Arab territories, including the Syrian Arab Golan, that are occupied by "Israel". Moreover, Syria rejects the sham trials that are conducted by the occupying Israeli authorities for Syrian prisoners and detainees.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 38, 55 and 74, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/73/599

General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 74 (b)
Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

The General Assembly, by its resolution 72/165, proclaimed 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism to honour and support the victims and survivors of terrorism and to promote and protect the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. The present report is submitted in response to the request, in resolution 72/165, that the Secretary-General report to the Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the resolution.

* The present report was submitted late owing to technical difficulties.

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I. Introduction

1. On 19 December 2017, by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 72/165, Member States designated 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution at the seventy-third session of the Assembly and invited all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations and civil society entities, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner.

2. To support the first observance of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Permanent Missions of Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria and the United States of America to the United Nations co-organized an event entitled "Surviving terrorism: victims' voices", giving victims a voice in sharing their experiences of being affected by terrorism. The Office of Counter-Terrorism also organized a series of activities throughout the month of August, including: the launch of a multimedia exhibition in New York, on 1 August, showcasing victims' voices; the coordination of the launch of other exhibitions around the world; and discussions and other events. The Office also mobilized United Nations information centres, civil society actors and social media platforms to raise awareness of the International Day.

II. Background

3. In 2006, the General Assembly unanimously adopted resolution 60/288, containing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which noted that the dehumanization of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations contributes to conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and emphasized that effective counter-terrorism measures must ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

4. Since 2006, the threat of terrorism has spread to an increasing number of regions, with a shift towards attacks against softer targets. While today an increasing number of countries are affected by acts of terrorism, the number of victims has largely been concentrated in a small number of Member States. According to the 2017 Global Terrorism Index published by the Institute for Economics and Peace, Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Syrian Arab Republic have accounted for three quarters of all deaths from acts of terrorism since 2013. Meeting the needs and protecting and promoting the rights of victims has become increasingly challenging as terrorists exploit conflict zones and ungoverned territories, seeking to exert control over regions that already suffer from a lack of stability and the absence of the rule of law.

5. The impact of terrorism is most starkly felt at the individual level: terrorist attacks cause death and injury through the use of improvised explosive devices, suicide attacks and, in the most rudimentary fashion, using vehicles, guns and bladed weapons. Many attacks occur in places with a heavy civilian presence, resulting in maximum casualties and instilling widespread fear. Such acts also have a ripple effect on the economic and social rights of the families of victims and survivors, leading to the further marginalization of vulnerable groups and separating communities.

6. Victims of terrorism continue to struggle to have their voices heard and their needs met. Their rights have seldomly been upheld, in particular in countries where terrorism has had an adverse effect on State institutions, where basic social services

and criminal justice institutions are weak or undermined and where national leaders and key actors are preoccupied in handling the terrorist threat rather than focusing on the victims.

7. The primary responsibility for supporting victims of terrorism and upholding their rights rests with Member States. The United Nations has an important role in supporting Member States in the implementation of pillars I and IV of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by standing in solidarity with, and providing support to, victims of terrorism and upholding human rights and the rule of law in all counter-terrorism efforts. United Nations entities carry out this mandate to assist Member States by: providing capacity-building and other forms of technical assistance; encouraging their efforts to promote, protect and respect the rights of victims; establishing associations and networks of victims of terrorism; and offering support through coordination with civil society organizations and other actors on the ground.

III. United Nations activities highlighting victims of terrorism

8. The entities of the United Nations system have focused their efforts on supporting Member States in the design and implementation of activities to uphold the rights of victims of terrorism and to address their needs. In recent years, the United Nations has worked to mobilize the resources and attention of the international community to respond to the needs of victims of terrorism.

9. Over the past five years, the Working Group on Supporting and Highlighting Victims of Terrorism of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force has developed and implemented several activities in support of victims of terrorism. For example, in 2016, the Working Group organized the United Nations Conference on Human Rights of Victims of Terrorism, and has subsequently developed guidelines, handbooks and other resources aimed at enhancing the capacity of civil society actors working with victims of terrorism.

10. Chaired by the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Working Group ensures a coherent and coordinated approach to the work of United Nations entities on the rights of victims of terrorism. Over the past several years, the Working Group developed best practices and implemented capacity-building projects in support of victims of terrorism that contributed to setting the ground for the proclamation of the International Day in 2017. The Working Group has developed its programme of work and implemented activities based on recommendations from the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and independent experts. A summary of those activities includes the following:

(a) The Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have advocated for victims' rights in their reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, respectively, with recommendations to ensure the respect for the human rights of victims of terrorism through national legislation, compensation and rehabilitation, among other measures;[1]

(b) The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) has been working to support and empower victims and survivors of violent extremism and terrorism for many years, including through its work on ending discrimination and sexual and gender-based violence and towards political empowerment and access to justice;

[1] See A/72/316, A/HRC/34/30, A/HRC/8/13, A/HRC/19/38 and A/HRC/22/26.

(c) The experts on the roster of Justice Rapid Response include specially trained investigators to help national authorities to prosecute sexual and gender-based crimes who have been deployed to every commission of inquiry created since 2009;

(d) In 2012, the former Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism detailed a framework of principles to guide the obligations of States to fulfil the human rights of victims of terrorism in his report to the Human Rights Council;[2]

(e) The Victims of Terrorism Support Portal (www.un.org/victimsofterrorism), launched in June 2014 with the support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, is a platform connecting victims, their families and communities to one another, as well as to providers of resources, services and other forms of support — since its launch, over 350,000 users have visited the site: one of the Portal's key activities is its guest interview series, produced in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, with the support of the Counter-Terrorism Centre, which interviews key interlocutors and partners, ranging from victims, victims' associations, civil society organizations, independent experts and regional and international organizations — since 2016, over 20 interviews have been recorded in English, French, Arabic and Pashto and uploaded to the Portal;

(f) The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has focused on the key role that victims of terrorism play before, during and after criminal legal proceedings, as well as on their needs for assistance and support: the Office has provided specialized resources for policymakers, law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners seeking to develop and implement the law through specialized tools, including its publications entitled "The Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Acts of Terrorism" and "Good Practices in Supporting Victims of Terrorism within the Criminal Justice Framework";

(g) Since the adoption of Security Council resolution 2242 (2015) on women and peace and security, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict has advocated for the rights of victims of terrorism and has intensified its focus on the use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism: a number of missions have been undertaken by the Special Representative to meet with victims of sexual violence committed by terrorist groups to ensure their voices are reflected in the efforts to tackle those challenges, especially in relation to justice and accountability;

(h) Based on the framework of principles developed by the former Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,[3] an international conference was held in February 2016, under the auspices of the Working Group, to examine how States could strengthen their national legislation, procedures and practices to better respect the human rights of victims of terrorism, including through the provision of services to meet their material and psychosocial needs;

(i) In the biennium 2015–2016, the Working Group organized and implemented training sessions for 14 victims and victims' representatives from across Africa and the Middle East to provide them with the appropriate tools and skills to more effectively forge alliances and advocate for their rights and needs, and to develop personal information sharing and support strategies; as a result, participants increased their use of social media, established Facebook pages and websites,

[2] A/HRC/20/14.
[3] Ibid.

produced theatre and storytelling plays and established pan-Arab and African networks of victims of terrorism;

(j) Between 2015 and 2017, the Office on Drugs and Crime provided technical assistance to strengthen national legal frameworks for the protection and support of victims of terrorism, at both the national and regional levels, in South Asia and South-East Asia: from 9 to 11 May 2017, the Office also provided training sessions on the effective prosecution of acts of sexual violence perpetrated by terrorist groups and on the provision of support to victims in Nigeria and the other Lake Chad basin countries;

(k) The Security Council, by its resolution 2395 (2017), renewed the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and expressed solidarity with the victims of terrorism and their families; the Council also encouraged the Directorate, in close cooperation with the Office of Counter-Terrorism, to take into account the important roles victims and their networks can play, in particular through the credibility of their voices, in countering terrorism; in its reports on assessment visits to Member States, the Directorate addressed relevant issues, including measures adopted to compensate victims, to provide support services and to offer protection in cases in which victims serve as witnesses; the Directorate also discussed with States the ways in which victims' voices could be included in programmes to counter terrorist narratives;

(l) In December 2017, the Working Group and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict convened a meeting with victims of terrorism on "Sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism: supporting the survivors", as part of the series on gender in the context of counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism: victims identified gaps in supporting projects of civil society organizations, and service provisions, including psychosocial support and reintegration of women and children, including children conceived in circumstances of sexual violence;

(m) More recently, the current Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism assessed national practices in counter-terrorism laws, policies and measures, including those to address the rights and needs of victims of terrorism and of persons impacted by counter-terrorism measures and made a number of recommendations.[4]

IV. Activities in support of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism

11. The Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre coordinated a series of events leading up to the observance of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, including the key developments set out below.

A. Handbook of good practices

12. On 26 June 2018, the Office of Counter-Terrorism, with the support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, organized an event entitled "Standing in solidarity for the rights of victims of terrorism" in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations and the Department of Public Information. The event included the launch of the "Handbook of Good Practices to Support Victims'

[4] A/72/495.

Associations in Africa and the Middle East" by the Office as well as an interactive round-table discussion with victims and representatives of victims' associations from France, Iraq, Mali and the United States. All participants noted the importance of such practical guides and how the Handbook would ensure consistency of approach and methodology for victims' associations in their support for victims of terrorism. The event, which was broadcast live through United Nations WebTV, is available on the United Nations Victims of Terrorism Support Portal. The Department of Public Information also promoted media coverage of the event through its social media accounts and multimedia services, including Facebook, Twitter and United Nations Television and Video, United Nations Web TV and the United Nations News Centre.

B. Victims of Terrorism documentary series

13. Recognizing the power of film as an educational and awareness-raising tool, the Office of Counter-Terrorism, with support from the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, launched its multilingual documentary series related to victims of terrorism. Produced in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, the documentary series raises awareness of the human impact of terrorism, stands in solidarity with the victims of terrorism and works to undermine the appeal of terrorism and violent extremism by providing a platform for victims to speak out against terrorism and the insidious narrative of violent extremists. The documentaries, which can be viewed on the United Nations Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, include:

(a) "Surviving terrorism: victims' voices from Norway", screened at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 9 November 2017, profiled two survivors of the 2011 terrorist attack in Norway by Anders Breivik, who killed 69 members of the Workers' Youth League on Utoya Island and 9 people in central Oslo: two survivors, Khamzy Gunaratnam and Viljar Hanssen, answered questions from the audience and participated in an interactive round-table discussion that also included victims from Italy, Lebanon, Uganda and the United States. The event was available as a live webcast on United Nations WebTV and is available on the United Nations Victims of Terrorism Support Portal;

(b) "Seeking justice in the face of terrorism in Mali" is the story of two amputees and a survivor of sexual violence in Mali during the time when the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (Mouvement pour l'unification et le jihad en Afrique de l'Ouest) occupied Gao in 2012 and 2013: the documentary, which details the victims' search for justice and their fight against impunity in the face of terrorism, was screened at Headquarters on 26 June 2018, during the "Standing in solidarity for the rights of victims of terrorism" event — a representative of a Malian human rights organization answered questions from the audience after the screening.

C. Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

14. In July 2018, the Working Group launched the Victims of Terrorism Support Programme, with the support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre. The Support Programme aims to strengthen victims' voices and their role in preventing violent extremism, when conducive to terrorism, to provide resources to victims and to increase the capacity of Member States and civil society organizations to assist them.

15. In addition, the Support Programme aims to rationalize many of the activities undertaken by the Working Group so far, while also seeking to integrate support for victims of terrorism into national and regional counter-terrorism strategies. The

International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, and its related activities described below, were coordinated through the Support Programme.

D. Exhibition

16. The Victims of Terrorism Support Programme produced the exhibition entitled "Surviving terrorism: victims' voices", which was on display in the Visitors' Lobby at Headquarters from 1 August to 4 September 2018. The exhibition featured the personal stories of 16 victims and representatives of victims' associations, as well as the two above-mentioned documentaries on the victims of terrorist attacks in Mali and Norway. The interviews, produced in Arabic, English, French and Pashto, provided viewers with an opportunity to understand the resilience and strength of victims and the importance of hearing their voices. The exhibition was made available for viewing on the United Nations Victims of Terrorism Support Portal and to the global network of United Nations information centres.

E. Conference to Commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism: Kabul

17. On 15 August 2018, at the Conference to Commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, held in Kabul, organized by the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office, Vladimir Ivanovich Voronkov, highlighted the need to provide victims with long-term practical assistance, including financial, legal, medical and psychosocial support.

F. International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism

18. The first International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism was commemorated on 17 August 2018 at United Nations Headquarters. The event was co-organized by the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Permanent Missions of Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria and the United States to the United Nations. The themes of solidarity and victims' rights celebrated the strength of victims and survivors who can tell their stories and put a human face on the impact of terrorism, emphasizing the importance of respect for their rights and needs, including their need to be heard. Victims of terrorism around the world were honoured with a minute of silence.

19. Following keynote speeches by the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations and the Secretary-General, the main part of the event consisted of presentations from four victims of terrorism and one representative from each of five victims' associations, from Afghanistan, Belgium, Iraq, Nigeria and the United States. The event was broadcast live on United Nations WebTV and promoted through social and traditional media outlets. In addition, the Department of Public Information created an official microsite for the International Day[3] in the six official languages of the United Nations which received 10,830 page views during the month of August 2018. The site also included video messages from a Nigerian survivor of a Boko Haram attack and the son of a victim of the attack on the United Nations Assistance

[3] See www.un.org/en/events/victimsofterrorismday.

Mission in Iraq in August 2003. The hashtag for the activities leading up and on the International Day activities was #SurvivingTerrorism.

20. On 20 August 2018, at a discussion on the theme "Surviving terrorism: victims' voices — sharing experiences of terrorism", Sayed Mushtaq Hussaini, a victim from Afghanistan, Hasan Wahhab Al Araji, a victim from Iraq, Imrana Alhaji Buba, a victim from Nigeria, and Liz Zirkle, a representative of a victims' association based in the United States, discussed the impact of terrorism and the experiences of the victims, and explored how the United Nations and Member States can support them, including by raising awareness of their issues through the observance of the International Day. Representatives from Member States, including Greece, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States, as well as from the European Union and several entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, were in attendance.

21. On 21 August 2018, in his message about the International Day, the Secretary-General reminded people to listen to the victims and survivors of terrorism, to help raise their voices and to recognize the effects that terrorism has had on their lives.

V. Activities by other United Nations offices and entities

22. United Nations offices and United Nations entities that are members of the Working Group on Supporting and Highlighting Victims of Terrorism of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force were encouraged to hold events and activities to observe the International Day.

A. United Nations Office at Geneva

23. On 16 August 2018, an event was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva to jointly observe World Humanitarian Day, celebrated on 19 August, the fifteenth anniversary of the attack on the United Nations Mission in Iraq, of 19 August 2003, and the International Day of Victims of Terrorism, observed on 21 August. The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Michael Møller, addressed the event, following which he joined the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, in a wreath-laying ceremony. A minute of silence was observed, followed by statements from three family members of victims as well as a survivor of the attack in Baghdad in 2003 and from a family member of a victim of the attack against the United Nations Mission in Algiers in 2007.

B. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

24. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime held a number of events in Vienna and its field offices to observe the International Day, including:

(a) In Vienna, on 21 August 2018, the Terrorism Prevention Branch launched the screening of the two documentaries on the victims of terrorist attacks in Mali and Norway and held a minute of silence; the Branch also distributed its publications, "Good Practices in Supporting Victims of Terrorism within the Criminal Justice Framework" and "The Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Acts of Terrorism";

(b) On 21 August, an exhibition was displayed in the rotunda at the Vienna International Centre featuring interviews from the exhibition "Surviving terrorism: victims' voices;

(c) Also on 21 August, the programme office of the Office on Drugs and Crime in Indonesia, in collaboration with the Indonesian Agency for Combating Terrorism and the Witness and Victim Protection Agency, organized an event to observe the International Day, including the screening of the documentary from Norway and the participation of eight survivors of terrorist attacks in Indonesia, two of whom gave speeches about their experiences and the impact of the attack on their daily lives; participants also included officials from multiple government authorities, including the Ministry of National Development Planning, the Indonesian Agency for Combating Terrorism and the Witness and Victim Protection Agency, as well as representation from embassies and permanent missions in Jakarta, including Australia, Belarus, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Peru, Thailand, Tunisia and the United States — the event was covered by national newspapers and in press releases and was also the subject of tweets by the embassies of the Netherlands and New Zealand, and was reported on in multiple accounts of the main Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna;

(d) The regional office of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Office on Drugs and Crime in Cairo produced a film featuring victims of terrorism from Iraq, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, who spoke about the impact of terrorism upon their daily lives -the film was distributed on social media on 21 August;

(e) On 21 August, the Office on Drugs and Crime distributed a message from the Executive Director of the Office, Yuri Fedotov, in which he emphasized that the International Day was an opportunity to hear the voices of victims and survivors of terrorism and to renew the commitment of the Office to providing the support they need.

C. United Nations Development Programme — Africa

25. The Africa office of the United Nations Development Programme shared online its project, "Preventing and responding to violent extremism in Africa: a development approach", which features the photographs and stories of survivors of extremism in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Somalia and Uganda.

D. United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

26. On 20 August 2018, in observance of Eid Al-Adha, the message of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Ján Kubiš, included reference to the International Day. The Special Representative noted that "although Eid is a time of joy, it is important to remember Iraq's many victims of terrorism." The Public Information Office of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) also produced a video message for the International Day from the Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs and Electoral Assistance of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, Alice Walpole, in which she marked the fifteenth anniversary of the attack on UNAMI headquarters and emphasized the struggles of victims of terrorism to have their voices heard and their rights upheld. The video was disseminated on 21 August on social media, the UNAMI website and by the Arabic News Section of the Department of Public Information. Video interviews with victims of terrorism were also posted on the local United Nations digital platforms.

E. United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

27. The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara held an event to observe the International Day that included a minute of silence on 21 August 2018. In a statement, the acting Head of Mission emphasized the need to give victims of terrorism opportunities to voice their concerns while highlighting the importance of upholding their human rights.

VI. Activities of the United Nations information centres

28. On 21 August, a total of 14 United Nations information centres undertook a broad range of outreach activities, including exhibits and multimedia outreach, based on products and support provided to them by the Working Group on Victims of Terrorism, including:

(a) The United Nations Information Centre in Cairo disseminated a press release, in Arabic and English, including the message of the Secretary-General; the Centre also highlighted the International Day on its website and social media accounts, reaching over 4,400 viewers;

(b) The United Nations Information Centre in Jakarta disseminated the message of the Secretary-General and supported the event held by the programme office of the Office on Drugs and Crime to observe the International Day;

(c) The United Nations Information Centre in Lima disseminated the message of the Secretary-General on its social media accounts;

(d) The United Nations Information Centre in Moscow published a series of materials honouring the victims of the attacks against UNAMI headquarters in Baghdad through its social media accounts, including Facebook, Twitter and VK, a Russian online social media and social networking service — the outreach by the Centre attracted over 2,000 followers;

(e) The United Nations Information Centre in Tehran translated the message of the Secretary-General into Persian, and the message was disseminated in a press release and posted on its website and on its social media accounts; on 26 August, the Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Tehran delivered a speech and read the message of the Secretary-General at a conference in Gorgan, Golestan Province, attended by over 500 participants, including government authorities, families of victims of terrorism, youth, civil society and the media;

(f) The United Nations Information Centre in Tokyo translated the message of the Secretary-General into Japanese and posted it on its website and its Facebook account;

(g) The United Nations Information Centre in Warsaw translated the message of the Secretary-General into Polish and posted it on its website, Facebook and Twitter accounts; the Centre also posted five videos on victims of terrorism on its social media accounts;

(h) The United Nations Information Service in Vienna provided communications support to the event organized by the Office on Drugs and Crime to promote the International Day; the Information Service in Vienna also distributed the message of the Secretary-General and the message of the Executive Director of the Office on Drugs and Crime through its website, Twitter and Facebook accounts;

(i) The United Nations Information Service in Geneva promoted the International Day through its Twitter, Instagram and Facebook accounts, including a

video interview with a victim from the Canal Hotel attack in Baghdad; the United Nations WebTV Geneva witness series also featured a short film on a victim of terrorism, which was publicized on its Twitter and Facebook accounts.

VII. Activities of civil society

29. The Office of Counter-Terrorism coordinated, supported and collaborated on a number of activities with its network of civil society organizations that support victims of terrorism to observe the International Day, including: joint social media activities through the sharing of official tweets and posts, using the #SurvivingTerrorism hashtag, and by distributing the interviews and documentaries contained on the United Nations Victims of Terrorism Support Portal and the related exhibition. On 21 August, many members of the network changed their profile pictures to the International Day logo to show solidarity with victims of terrorism.

30. Many civil society organizations also arranged their own activities to observe the International Day, including:

(a) The French Association of Victims of Terrorism shared videos on their social media platforms from their project "Voices of survivors against radicalization", which features the testimonies of 21 victims and survivors of terrorism from across the globe;

(b) The V-Europe Association of Victims of Terrorism, based in Belgium, laid a wreath at the national monument for victims of terrorism in Brussels and gave interviews to the national media to share the message of the International Day;

(c) A victim of terrorism from Jordan was interviewed by an Al-Mamlaka news programme about the International Day;

(d) Victim Support Europe held a campaign from 17 to 21 August to raise awareness of the International Day by using a video poem "In the light and the dark", which was created by a victim of the terrorist attacks in Brussels in March 2016; the campaign used the following hashtags: #SurvivingTerrorism, #Inthelightandthedark, #counterterrorism, #fightterrorism, #antiterrorism, #stopterrorism, #WeAreNotAfraid and #VictimsOfTerrorism;

(e) Tuesday's Children, a civil society organization based in the United States to support victims of terrorism, created a social media campaign using quotes from victims of terrorism that was distributed on social media and shared links to the guest interviews and the live webcast of the launch of the exhibit on victims of terrorism held at United Nations Headquarters; the organization used the following hashtags: #survivingterrorism, #commonbond and #lifetimeofhealing.

VIII. Observations

31. The International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism on 21 August is a fitting way for the international community to express its solidarity with and to give recognition to the rights of victims of terrorism, as well as to promote action by Member States in support of victims. In order to benefit from reparations and redress, and to ensure that they receive the necessary medical services, mental health and psychosocial support and livelihood opportunities, victims' rights must first be recognized. This includes the rights of victims of sexual violence perpetrated by groups such as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Boko Haram and others. The International Day provides an opportunity for the recalibration of the approach to the rights of victims of terrorism and creates conditions conducive

to upholding those rights and to developing an environment conducive to long-term solutions that support their needs.

32. The International Day allows the international community to sustain focus on, and create a vision for, coordinated action on victims of terrorism and to pave the way for future activities, events and opportunities for the promotion of their rights. Many speakers and participants at the various activities throughout the year leading up to the International Day stressed the need for stronger coordination, collaboration and leadership for victims, particularly in the international community and within the United Nations system. It may be useful to consider the creation of informal groupings or coalitions of action on the issue of victims of terrorism, drawing on examples of groups of like-minded countries (for example, groups of friends) that have coalesced around other thematic issues at the United Nations.

33. Building on the success of the 2016 Conference on the Human Rights of Victims of Terrorism, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will further explore ways of improving international coordination, collaboration and leadership in this area, including through convening a follow-up conference to facilitate the exchange of good practices, programmes and policies in support of victims among Member States and relevant stakeholders.

34. Member States and the entities of the United Nations system need to ensure that the human rights of victims of terrorism are respected, protected and promoted through ensuring socioeconomic inclusion, especially for vulnerable groups, strengthening community resilience and bringing about inclusive social cohesion. This will also depend on ensuring sustainable and long-term financial support for such efforts. There is a need to focus on establishing a long-term funding mechanism within the United Nations, in particular with a view to supporting the Victims of Terrorism Support Programme of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and other related initiatives, to ensure the provision of such resources. In addition to strengthening these objectives, such a mechanism could also provide for greater coordination and coherence of the efforts focused on supporting the needs and upholding the rights of victims of terrorism.

United Nations A/73/600

General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 3 (b)
Credentials of representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chair: Ms. Ngedikes Olai **Uludong** (Palau)

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 18 September 2018, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its seventy-third session consisting of the following Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, China, Finland, Ghana, Palau, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and United States of America.

2. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 28 November 2018.

3. The Permanent Representative of Palau to the United Nations, Ngedikes Olai Uludong, was unanimously elected Chair.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General dated 27 November 2018 concerning the credentials of representatives of Member States to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs as required by rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly had been submitted by the following 126 Member States in respect of their representatives to the seventy-third session of the Assembly: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the

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Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

6. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives of Member States to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly had been communicated to the Secretary-General by means of a facsimile communication from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the Permanent Mission concerned, by the following 67 Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Ireland, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

7. The Chair recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of all the Member States mentioned in the memorandum, on the understanding that formal credentials of the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraph 6 of the present report would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

8. The Chair proposed the following draft resolution for adoption by the Committee:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General.

9. The draft resolution proposed by the Chair was adopted without a vote.

10. The Chair then proposed that the Committee recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Credentials of representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly" (see para. 12). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

11. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

12. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the seventy-third session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[1] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.[1]

[1] A/73/600.

United Nations A/73/601–S/2018/1052

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 November 2018

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 67
The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 25 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 25 November 2018, Russian Federation military vessels fired on and forcefully captured three Ukrainian navy vessels near the Kerch Strait, thus committing an act of aggression against Ukraine as set out in in article 3 (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX), entitled "Definition of Aggression", which is yet another demonstration of the belligerent behaviour of the Russian Federation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.

This act constitutes a clear violation of the Charter of the United Nations and is a threat to international peace and security.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia's armed provocation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov.

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 67, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 25 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia's armed provocation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov

25 November 2018

Provocative actions of the Russian Federation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov have transgressed all boundaries and become aggressive.

Ships of the Russian Federation, in violation of freedom of navigation, unlawfully used force against the ships of the Ukrainian Naval Forces.

We consider such aggressive actions as a violation of the norms of the Charter of the United Nations and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Ukraine will take all appropriate measures to ensure diplomatic and legal response.

We will also inform our partners about the aggressive acts of the Russian Federation in the Sea of Azov. Such actions pose a threat to the security of all States of the Black Sea region and thus demand a clear reaction from the international community.

United Nations A/73/602–S/2018/1058

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 November 2018

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 45
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 26 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 20 November 2018, addressed to you by the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Ismet Korukoğlu (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Feridun H. **Sinirlioğlu**
Permanent Representative

18-20487 (E) 301118

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Annex to the letter dated 26 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing in response to the letter dated 14 November 2018, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot Chargé d'affaires in New York and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/73/565-S/2018/1023), which, yet again, includes inaccurate claims similar to those made in the Greek Cypriot representative's previous letters. I would like to bring the following to your kind attention with a view to setting the record straight.

Regarding the false assertions of "infringements of international air traffic regulations" and "violations of the national airspace of Cyprus", I wish to underline that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and permission of the relevant authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or authority. The civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent body to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services within its own national airspace, and notices to airmen are issued in accordance with article 3 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

Similarly, the allegation in the letter regarding the use of Turkish Cypriot ports is also groundless, given the fact that the Greek Cypriot administration has no jurisdiction or right of say over Northern Cyprus. Furthermore, this claim ignores the present realities on the ground, namely, the existence of two independent, self-governing States on the island of Cyprus, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

As regards the false statements concerning Ercan Airport in the North, it should once again be underlined that the technologically up-to-date Ercan area control centre and airport in North Cyprus have been providing regular, reliable and safe air traffic services since the Greek Cypriot side's refusal in 1977 to provide air traffic services in the northern part of the island, in line with its policy of isolating the Turkish Cypriot people. Ever since, all flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have taken place with the full knowledge and permission of the Civil Aviation Department of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which it has full jurisdiction and control.

Moreover, the unjust isolation imposed on the Turkish Cypriots, which the Greek Cypriot side attempts to bolster by deeming all air and sea ports in Northern Cyprus "illegal", is in complete contravention of international law, as well as the call made by the then Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, in his report to the Security Council dated 28 May 2004 (S/2004/437), in which he clearly stated: "I would hope they [members of the Security Council] can give a strong lead to all States to cooperate both bilaterally and in international bodies to eliminate unnecessary restrictions and barriers that have the effect of isolating the Turkish Cypriots and impeding their development, deeming such a move as consistent with Security Council resolutions 541 (1983) and 550 (1984)."

The legislation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on aeronautical safety meets all standards and recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization, ensuring aviation safety and security by regulating all aspects of civil aviation, which includes the operation of airports and the management of air traffic. All airports in Northern Cyprus are in full conformity with international standards, and necessary upgrades have been performed to keep up with the developing

technology. Moreover, the number of air traffic controllers has been increased in accordance with the growing number of flights over the years, and the Ercan area control centre is in regular and close cooperation with the Ankara area control centre in order to ensure the safe conduct of all flights in the region. In 2017 alone, the number of passengers who used Ercan Airport stood at 3,962,541, and this number is expected to reach 4,200,294 in 2018. Moreover, in 2017, 27,197 aeroplanes used Ercan Airport for arrival and departure and 189,787 aeroplanes used the Ercan advisory airspace, and these numbers are expected to reach 27,469 and 193,583, respectively, in 2018. In that regard, it must also be stressed that the Turkish Cypriot side is committed to upholding the highest standards in the field of air navigation safety, in full conformity with the Chicago Convention of 1944, and that it is ready to cooperate with the Greek Cypriot authorities on this very important issue.

Availing myself of the present opportunity, I would like to call upon the Greek Cypriot side to discontinue such unfavourable and outdated rhetoric and remind it that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ismet **Korukoğlu**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/73/603

General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 116 (c)
Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission

Letter dated 28 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Having consulted with the top 10 troop-contributing countries, I have the honour to inform you that the following five Member States, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Pakistan and Rwanda, will represent the troop-contributing country category on the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission for the period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020.

I hope that this decision will facilitate the election of other Member States from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission.

(*Signed*) Maleeha **Lodhi**
Permanent Representative

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United Nations A/73/604

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 November 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 150
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2018

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the financial position of 29 closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2018. Of those missions, five had net cash deficits in the total amount of $85.6 million (compared with $86.0 million as at 30 June 2017) as a result of outstanding payments of assessed contributions from Member States. The remaining 24 closed peacekeeping missions had net cash surpluses available for credit to Member States totalling $93.1 million (compared with $85.3 million as at 30 June 2017).

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Abbreviations

MINUGUA	United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala
MINUJUSTH	United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti
MINURCA	United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic
MINURCAT	United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad
MINURSO	United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
MIPONUH	United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti
MONUA	United Nations Observer Mission in Angola
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
ONUB	United Nations Operation in Burundi
ONUCA	United Nations Observer Group in Central America
ONUMOZ	United Nations Operation in Mozambique
ONUSAL	United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador
UNAMID	African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur
UNAMIR	United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda
UNAMSIL	United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
UNAVEM	United Nations Angola Verification Mission
UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
UNIIMOG	United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group
UNIKOM	United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission
UNISFA	United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei
UNMEE	United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
UNMIBH	United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UNMIH	United Nations Mission in Haiti
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNMIS	United Nations Mission in the Sudan
UNMISET	United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UNMIT	United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste
UNMLT	United Nations Military Liaison Team in Cambodia
UNMOT	United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan
UNOMIG	United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

UNOMIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia
UNOMSIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UNOMUR	United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda
UNOSOM	United Nations Operation in Somalia
UNPF	United Nations Peace Forces
UNPREDEP	United Nations Preventive Deployment Force
UNSMIH	United Nations Support Mission in Haiti
UNSMIS	United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic
UNSOS	United Nations Support Office in Somalia
UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNTAES	United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
UNTAG	United Nations Transition Assistance Group
UNTMIH	United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 57/323, wherein the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide an updated report and make proposals on how to address the issue of outstanding dues owed to Member States from closed peacekeeping missions that are in net cash deficit. The report provides updated information on the financial position of closed peacekeeping missions since the previous report of the Secretary-General (A/72/649), which the Assembly deferred for consideration until its seventy-third session (decision 72/547 C).

2. The present report provides updated information on the financial position, as at 30 June 2018, of the following closed peacekeeping missions for which final performance reports have been issued: MINUGUA, MINURCA, ONUB, ONUCA and ONUSAL, ONUMOZ, UNAMSIL and UNOMSIL, UNAVEM and MONUA, UNIIMOG, UNIKOM, UNMEE, UNMIBH, UNMIH, UNMLT, UNMOT, UNOMIG, UNOMIL, UNOMUR and UNAMIR, UNOSOM, UNPF, UNPREDEP, UNSMIH, UNTMIH and MIPONUH, UNTAC, UNTAES and Civilian Police Support Group, UNTAET and UNMISET, UNTAG, UNMIS, UNMIT, MINURCAT and UNSMIS. Information on each closed peacekeeping mission is provided in annex I to the present report.

Background

3. The General Assembly has deferred consideration of the closed peacekeeping missions since its sixty-sixth session, in 2012, when the Secretary-General presented his report on the updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2011 (A/66/665). The Secretary-General continues to provide updated financial information on an annual basis (see A/67/739, A/68/666, A/69/659, A/70/552, A/71/652 and A/72/649). The present report is the eighth such update.

4. As at 30 June 2002, there were 10 closed peacekeeping missions. On 30 June 2018, that number had almost trebled to 29 closed peacekeeping missions. The outstanding payment of assessments totalled $390.8 million gross ($350.7 million net of $38.9 million in credits and $1.2 million in overpayments).

II. Consolidated financial information

5. As at 30 June 2018, 24 of the 29 peacekeeping missions covered in the present report had net cash surpluses available for credit to Member States totalling $93,122,000, as set out in table 1.

Table 1

Consolidated net cash position of MINURCAT, ONUB, ONUCA/ONUSAL, ONUMOZ, UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL, UNAVEM/MONUA, UNIIMOG, UNIKOM, UNMEE, UNMIBH, UNMIH, UNMIS, UNMIT, UNMLT, UNMOT, UNOMIG, UNOMIL, UNOMUR/UNAMIR, UNPF, UNPREDEP, UNSMIS, UNTAES/ Civilian Police Support Group, UNTAET/UNMISET and UNTAG as at 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Amount*
Cash assets	151 947
Less: liabilities	(58 825)
Net cash available for credit to Member States as at 30 June 2018	**93 122**

6. The total net cash available in the 24 closed peacekeeping missions at the end of June 2017 was $85,347,000. By the end of June 2018, there were 24 closed peacekeeping missions with total net cash balances available of $93,122,000. As at the same date, outstanding payments of assessments for those 24 closed missions amounted to $238,415,000. A total of $18,430,000 in claims was owed to troop-contributing countries, along with $38,708,000 in credits and $1,192,000 of overpayments by Member States. In addition, other liabilities amounted to $495,000. A breakdown by each closed peacekeeping mission is provided in annex I to the present report. The change in the total net cash available for credit to Member States from 30 June 2017 to 30 June 2018 is analysed in table 2.

Table 2
Change in net cash available for credit to Member States from 30 June 2017 to 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Net cash available as at 30 June 2017	**85 347**
Reimbursement of loans from active peacekeeping missions	27 000
Loans to active missions	(30 000)
Investment and other revenue	2 286
Contributions received from Member States	8 676
Reimbursement: MINURCAT and UNMIT	301
Settlement of claims and charges: staff benefits and other charges	(488)
Net cash available as at 30 June 2018	**93 122**

7. As at 30 June 2017, an amount of $32,100,000 was owed by two active missions, comprising $10,800,000 owed by MINURSO and $21,300,000 owed by UNMIK. As at 30 June 2018, the amount owed by those missions had increased to $35,100,000, comprising $11,000,000 owed by MINURSO and $24,100,000 owed by UNMIK.

8. As at 31 October 2018, the amount owed by those missions had decreased to $34,700,000, comprising $11,000,000 owed by MINURSO and $23,700,000 owed by UNMIK.

9. Annexes II and III to the present report depict the levels of cross-borrowing and provide an analysis of monthly borrowings and settlements between active and closed peacekeeping missions, respectively, since July 2013. Given that the new assessments are issued in July, the peak levels are usually in July and August. Generally, there was a reduction in cross-borrowing between November and January during the periods from 2013/14 to 2017/18, except during the 2015/16 period. In the 2015/16 period, the scale of assessments expired in December 2015 and UNMIK, which had the largest loan, was assessed six months, until 31 December 2015, instead of the 12-month period until the end of the fiscal period in June 2016, which reduced the amount of contributions received in the first six months of the 2015/16 period and prevented the repayment of the loan. A similar trend may be experienced in the 2018/19 period, taking into account the expiration of the approved scale of assessments on 31 December 2018.

10. In addition to borrowing by active missions, as at 30 June 2018, there were outstanding loans from closed peacekeeping missions to other closed missions, which had cash deficits owing to outstanding payments of assessments and therefore could not repay the loans. The loans were for UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH ($7,366,000), MINURCA ($3,517,000) and MINUGUA ($124,000).

11. The cash balance increased by $301,000, stemming from an amount of $282,000 recorded in MINURCAT related to the reimbursement of freight charges and $19,000

recorded in UNMIT related to the reimbursement of an unutilized balance from project implementation by the United Nations Development Programme.

12. The cash balance decreased by $488,000 as a result of the settlement of staff benefits and other charges during the reporting period.

13. During the financial year, Member States settled outstanding assessments of $9,081,000, principally with respect to UNPF ($8,450,000), UNTAC ($205,000) and UNOSOM ($200,000), as well as other amounts under $100,000 for UNMIS, MINURCAT, UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL, UNMIT, UNMEE, UNTAET/UNMISET and UNSMIS.

14. Investment and other revenues of $2,286,000 were earned principally by UNPF ($798,000), UNMIH ($341,000) and UNAVEM/MONUA ($223,000); amounts under $200,000 were earned by UNOMUR/UNAMIR, ONUMOZ, MINURCAT and UNMIS, which had the largest holdings of cash and cash-equivalent assets during the financial year.

15. The total net cash balance of $93,122,000 as at 30 June 2018 is analysed for each of the 24 closed peacekeeping missions in table 3.

Table 3
Closed peacekeeping missions with net cash balances as at 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Mission	Amount
MINURCAT	2 172
ONUB	1 434
ONUCA/ONUSAL	402
ONUMOZ	7 959
UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL	1 549
UNAVEM/MONUA	10 602
UNIIMOG	177
UNIKOM	588
UNMEE	2 114
UNMIBH	887
UNMIH	11 630
UNMIS	5 955
UNMIT	1 198
UNMLT	1
UNMOT	117
UNOMIG	485
UNOMIL	181
UNOMUR/UNAMIR	11 221
UNPF	28 822
UNPREDEP	1 890
UNSMIS	135
UNTAES	685
UNTAET/UNMISET	2 562
UNTAG	356
Total	**93 122**

16. As at 30 June 2018, 5 of the 29 peacekeeping missions covered in the present report had net cash deficits totalling $85,610,000, as shown in table 4. The deficit arose from outstanding payments of assessments in the total amount of $152,416,000.

Table 4
Consolidated net cash position of the MINUGUA Military Observer Group, MINURCA, UNOSOM, UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH and UNTAC as at 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	Amount
Cash assets	1 320
Less: liabilities	(86 930)
Net cash deficit as at 30 June 2018	**(85 610)**

17. The liabilities of the closed missions in cash deficit shown in table 4 above included loans of $23,828,000, comprising (a) $11,008,000 owed by UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH, MINURCA and MINUGUA to closed peacekeeping missions (see para. 16 above); and (b) $12,820,000 owed by MINURCA to the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund since February 2000 as a result of insufficient cash resources in the Mission. Liabilities also included claims owed to troop-contributing countries in the amount of $62,922,000 (see annex IV) and other payables in the amount of $174,000 comprising credits owed to the former Yugoslavia.

18. The change in the net cash position for the five closed peacekeeping missions in cash deficit from 30 June 2017 to 30 June 2018 is presented in table 5.

Table 5
Change in the net cash position of closed missions in deficit from 30 June 2017 to 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Net cash deficit as at 30 June 2017	**(86 041)**
Contributions received from Member States	405
Investment and other revenue	26
Net cash deficit as at 30 June 2018	**(85 610)**

19. The net cash deficit in the amount of $85,610,000 as at 30 June 2018 is analysed for each of the five closed peacekeeping missions in table 6.

Table 6
Closed peacekeeping missions with cash deficits as at 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Mission	Amount
MINUGUA Military Observer Group	(123)
MINURCA	(23 810)
UNOSOM	(14 967)
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH	(7 264)
UNTAC	(39 446)
Total	**(85 610)**

III. Cash requirements of the Organization and outstanding dues owed to Member States from closed peacekeeping missions that are in net cash deficit

20. Previous reports of the Secretary-General on the updated financial situation of closed peacekeeping operations have presented information on the historical unpredictability and gaps in the receipt of assessed contributions and their impact on liquidity in peacekeeping missions. In accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly, assessments for each peacekeeping operation are issued according to the duration of the respective mandate. Consequently, the timing of the issuance of assessments and the related incoming contributions for each operation depend upon the timing and duration of the mandate extension by the Security Council.

21. Cash surpluses of closed missions continue to be used to alleviate the operational cash shortages for active peacekeeping operations. Cross-borrowing from closed missions totalled $41 million as at 30 June 2013, $31 million as at 30 June 2014, $23.5 million as at 30 June 2015, $40 million as at 30 June 2016, $32.1 million as at 30 June 2017 and $35.1 million as at 30 June 2018. At various times during the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, cross-borrowings were carried out to meet the operational needs for two active peacekeeping missions, namely, MINURSO and UNMIK. As at 30 June 2018, unpaid liabilities to troop-contributing countries for the period until April 2018 owing to insufficient cash amounted to $189 million in eight active peacekeeping operations, namely, MINUJUSTH, MINURSO, MONUSCO, UNAMID, UNDOF, UNISFA, UNMISS and UNSOS. Borrowings, settlements and peak levels of cross-borrowing from July 2013 to 31 October 2018 are shown in annexes II and III to the present report.

22. The trend of cross-borrowing from closed missions for active peacekeeping missions in the past five financial periods continues, with some active missions, particularly MINURSO and UNMIK, still facing cash shortages owing to outstanding assessments that require temporary borrowings from closed peacekeeping missions. As shown in figures I and II, there is a strong relationship between unpaid assessments (blue line) and the level of cross-borrowing (green line). The delay in the payment of assessments and the consequent shortage of cash receipts explains why the two missions have to keep borrowing from closed missions.

23. In September 2018, as shown in annexes II and III, cash in the amount of $151.7 million in closed missions was loaned to the programme budget. The cross-borrowing had not been settled by the time of the issuance of the present report.

Figure I
MINURSO: unpaid assessments and cross-borrowings (July 2013 to October 2018)

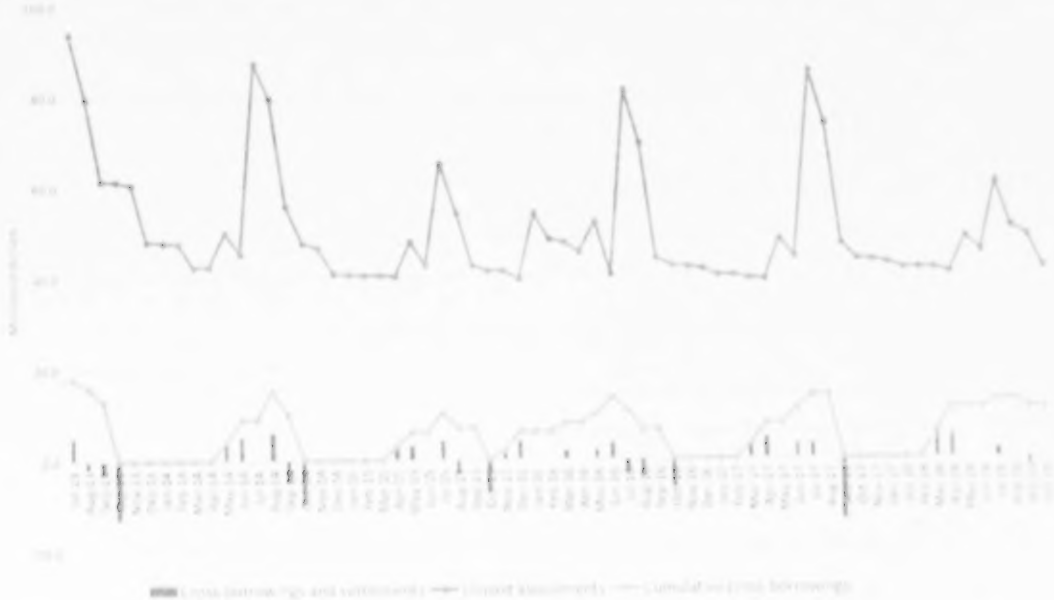
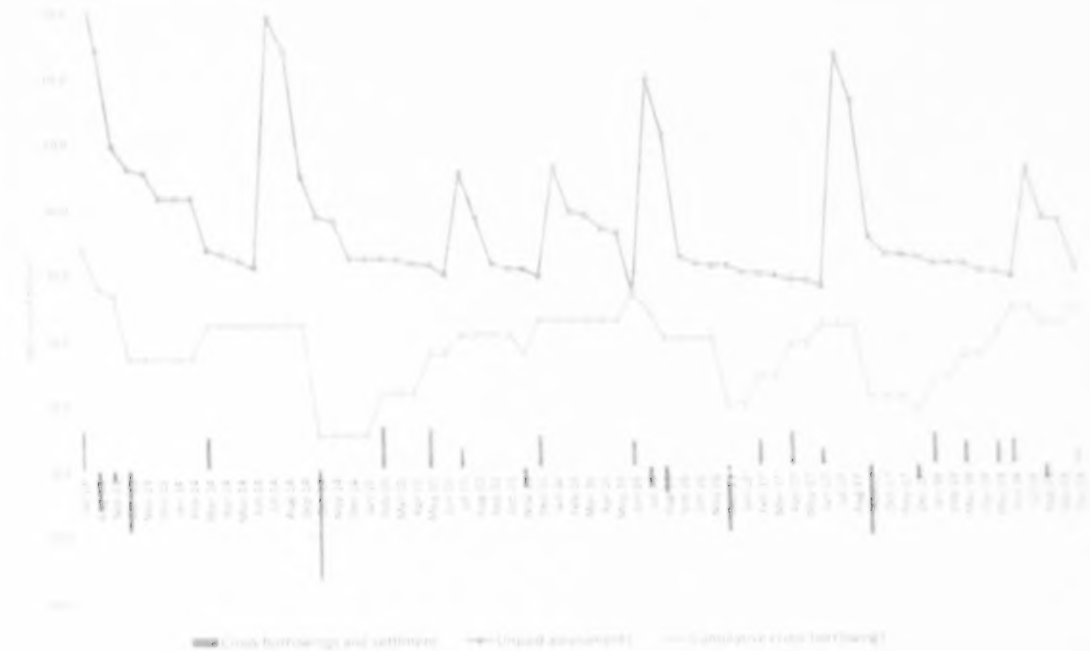


Figure II
UNMIK: unpaid assessments and cross-borrowings (July 2013 to October 2018)



24. As noted above, the General Assembly has deferred consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on the updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions since its sixty-sixth session. In five of his reports on the matter (A/66/665, A/67/739, A/68/666, A/69/659 and A/70/552), the Secretary-General proposed a number of options to address the issues surrounding cash deficits of both closed and active peacekeeping missions, which are still under consideration:

- Proposals to resolve the issue of outstanding debts in closed missions with cash deficits (A/66/665, A/67/739 and A/68/666)
- Proposal for temporary cross-borrowing from active missions (A/67/739, A/68/666, A/69/659 and A/70/552)
- Proposal to establish a working capital fund (A/68/666, A/69/659 and A/70/552).

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

25. **The General Assembly is requested:**

(a) **To take note of the present report;**

(b) **To consider the proposals of the Secretary-General to address the cash requirements of active peacekeeping operations;**

(c) **To allow the retention of the net cash balance of $93,122,000 available in 24 closed peacekeeping missions if no new mechanism is approved to address the cash requirements of active peacekeeping operations.**

Annex I

Unpaid assessments, accounts payable to Member States and other liabilities of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2018

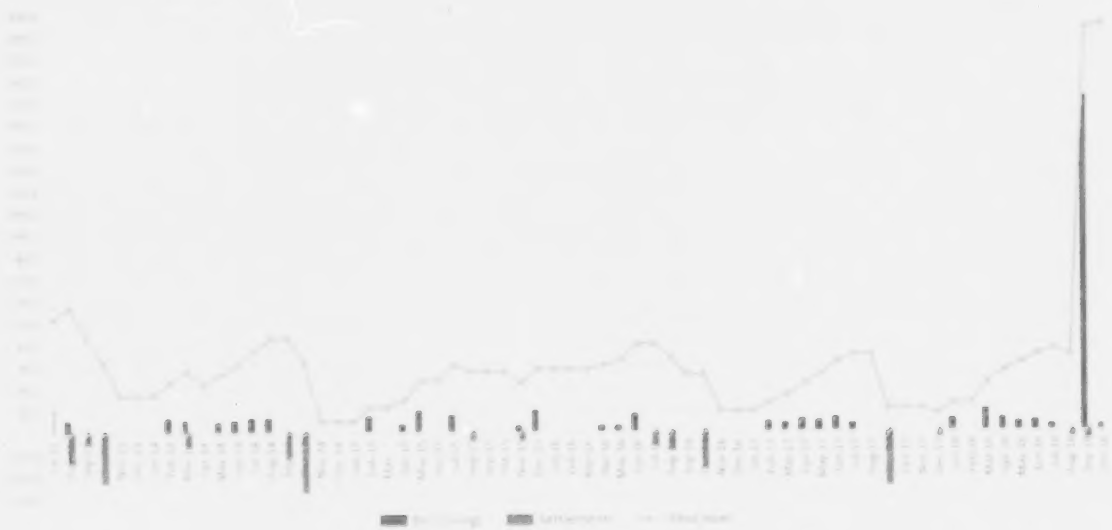
(Thousands of United States dollars)

		Accounts payable to Member States			
Mission	*Unpaid assessments*	*Amounts owed to troop- and police-contributing countries*	*Credits returnable to Member States*	*Overpayment*	*Other liabilities*
Surplus missions					
MINURCAT	173		(4 999)	(5)	
ONUB	36	(46)	(318)	(593)	
ONUCA/ONUSAL	78		(3)	–	
ONUMOZ	8 979		(310)		
UNAMSIL/UNOMSIL	126	(5)	(73)	(3)	
UNAVEM/MONUA	34 864		(5 230)	–	
UNIIMOG	4		(69)		
UNIKOM	68		(272)	(9)	
UNMEE	10	(39)	(45)	(26)	
UNMIBH	33 835		(4 420)	–	
UNMIH	9	(12 454)	(207)	–	
UNMIS	859		(154)	(59)	(495)
UNMIT	126		(1 472)	(1)	
UNMLT	–		(3)	–	
UNMOT	0	(1)	(3)	–	
UNOMIG	3 795		(153)	(448)	
UNOMIL	2		(28)	–	
UNOMUR/UNAMIR	922		(219)	–	
UNPF	119 132	(3 299)	(13 778)		
UNPREDEP	2	(2 588)	(13)	–	
UNSMIS	6		(243)	(57)	
UNTAES/Civilian Police Support Group	8 713		(4 724)	–	
UNTAET/UNMISET	26 671		(1 848)	–	
UNTAG	5		(124)	–	
Subtotal	**238 415**	**(18 430)**	**(38 708)**	**(1 192)**	**(495)**
Deficit missions					
MINUGUA	144				(124)
MINURCA	35 538	(7 480)			(16 337)
UNOSOM	57 352	(15 490)	(70)		
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH	19 386	(114)			(7 366)
UNTAC	39 996	(39 839)	(104)		
Subtotal	**152 416**	**(62 923)**	**(174)**	**–**	**(23 827)**
Total	**390 831**	**(81 353)**	**(38 882)**	**(1 192)**	**(24 322)**

Annex II

Borrowings from closed peacekeeping missions, 1 July 2013 to 31 October 2018

(Millions of United States dollars)



Annex III

Borrowings, settlements and peak levels of cross-borrowing from closed missions, 1 July 2013 to 31 October 2018

(Millions of United States dollars)

1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014

Month	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level
July	11.0	–	52.0	52.0
August	5.0	(13.0)	44.0	57.0
September	–	(4.5)	39.5	44.0
October	–	(22.5)	17.0	32.0
November	–	–	17.0	17.0
December	–	–	17.0	17.0
January	–	–	17.0	17.0
February	6.0	–	23.0	23.0
March	5.0	(6.0)	22.0	28.0
April	–	–	22.0	22.0
May	4.0	–	26.0	26.0
June	5.0	–	31.0	31.0

1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015

Month	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level
July	6.0	–	37.0	37.0
August	6.0	–	43.0	43.0
September	–	(11.0)	32.0	43.0
October	–	(27.0)	5.0	32.0
November	–	–	5.0	5.0
December	–	–	5.0	5.0
January	–	–	5.0	5.0
February	6.5	–	11.5	11.5
March	–	–	11.5	11.5
April	3.0	–	14.5	14.5
May	9.0	–	23.5	23.5
June	–	–	23.5	23.5

1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Month	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level
July	–	(6.0)	34.0	40.0
August	–	(8.0)	26.0	34.0
September	–	–	26.0	34.0
October	–	(16.5)	9.5	26.0
November	–	–	9.5	9.5
December	–	–	9.5	9.5
January	–	–	9.5	9.5
February	4.0	–	13.5	13.5
March	3.2	–	16.7	16.7
April	5.2	–	21.9	21.9
May	4.4	–	26.3	26.3
June	5.8	–	32.1	32.1

1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

Month	Borrowings	Settlements	Balance	Peak level
July	3.0	–	35.1	35.1
August	–	–	35.1	35.1
September	–	(24.5)	10.6	10.6
October	–	–	10.6	10.6
November	–	–	10.6	10.6
December	–	(2.5)	8.1	8.1
January	5.0	–	13.1	13.1
February	–	–	13.1	13.1
March	9.4	–	22.5	22.5
April	5.1	–	27.6	27.6
May	3.5	–	31.1	31.1
June	4.0	–	35.1	35.1

1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016				
Month	*Borrowings*	*Settlements*	*Balance*	*Peak level*
July	7.0	–	30.5	30.5
August	–	(3.0)	27.5	30.5
September	–	–	27.5	27.5
October	–	(7.0)	20.5	27.5
November	2.0	(3.0)	19.5	22.5
December	9.0	–	28.5	28.5
January	–	–	28.5	28.5
February	–	–	28.5	28.5
March	–	–	28.5	28.5
April	2.0	–	30.5	30.5
May	2.0	–	32.5	32.5
June	7.5	–	40.0	40.0

1 July 2018 to 31 October 2018				
Month	*Borrowings*	*Settlements*	*Balance*	*Peak level*
July	2.0	–	37.1	37.1
August	–	(2.5)	34.6	34.6
September	151.7[a]	(3.0)	183.3	183.3
October	2.1			185.4

[a] The amount of $151.7 million was loaned to the programme budget.

Annex IV

Outstanding claims owed to troop-contributing countries in closed missions with cash deficits as at 30 June 2018

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Contingent-owned equipment	*Letters of assist*	*Total*
MINURCA	(7 477)	(3)	(7 480)
UNOSOM	(12 425)	(3 065)	(15 490)
UNSMIH/UNTMIH/MIPONUH	–	(114)	(114)
UNTAC[a]	(20 675)	(19 164)	(39 839)
Total	**(40 577)**	**(22 346)**	**(62 923)**

[a] The change in the amount of $17,000 for UNTAC from the prior year is the result of a revaluation of claims in Canadian dollars as at 30 June 2018.

United Nations A/73/605–S/2018/1053

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
30 November 2018

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-third session
Agenda item 67
The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 27 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in connection with another act of aggression against Ukraine (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 67, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 27 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in connection with another act of aggression against Ukraine

26 November 2018

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest to the Russian Federation in connection with the armed attack and capture of the Ukrainian navy ships «Berdyansk», «Nikopol» and the tug boat «Yana Kapu», as well as the wounding and capturing of members of their crews.

The attack on Ukrainian ships that was carried out during a sea crossing from the port of Odessa to the port of Mariupol, in accordance with the provisions of all effective multilateral and bilateral international treaties and navigation rules, is nothing but another act of armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, as defined, in particular, in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of UN General Assembly Resolution 29/3314 of 14 December 1974 on the definition of aggression. Russia has *de facto* expanded its military aggression against Ukraine to the sea.

Kremlin's criminal regime has today once again demonstrated that it won't stop its aggressive policy and is ready for any acts of aggression against the Ukrainian state.

Ukraine demands to provide urgent medical assistance to the wounded and to ensure their immediate safe return home. Ukraine also demands to return the captured navy ships and to compensate for the damage caused.

It is Kremlin's regime who bears full responsibility for further aggravation of the situation in the Azov and Black Seas and for undermining the peaceful settlement of the Russian-Ukrainian armed conflict.

Ukraine urges its allies and partners to take all necessary measures to deter the aggressor, i.a. by applying new and strengthening existing sanctions, as well as by providing Ukraine with military assistance to protect its territorial integrity and sovereignty within the internationally recognized borders.